the first proviso, the period of thirty days and fifteen days referred to in clause (*b*) *shall be calculated from the date of service of such special notice."*

' (2) *In sub-rule* (1) *of rule* 6-*A of the said Schedule, the following words shall be added at the end, namely:*—

" *or, in a case where a special notice is required to be served on the owner or occupier of the property under the first proviso to that rule, on the first day of the half-year following that in which such special notice is served on the owner or occupier of the property.*" '

" Sir, by this we are only restoring the position that was in vogue before 1936. This proviso was in the City Municipal Act prior to 1936 and by some reason or other it was omitted in the amending Act of 1936. On the request of the Corporation of Madras itself we are moving for the inclusion of this proviso. Now, what happens is that whenever there is an enhancement in assessment, the practice is that it is announced in the papers and the actual owner or occupier of the property takes note of it from the announcement in the newspapers and pays the enhanced rate. According to this amendment we seek to ask the commissioner that wherever there is an enhancement in the property tax, he should give notice to the occupier or owner of the property so that if he wants he can prefer an appeal in time to the commissioner. I therefore request that the amendment be approved."

The motion was put and carried.

VII.—RULES UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 74-A OF THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT RELATING TO MADRAS LOCAL FUND ASSISTANT ENGINEERS SERVICE.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Sir, I move—

' *That the draft rules* [a] *proposed to be made by the Government of Madras under sub-section* (2) *of section* 74-*A of The Madras Local Boards Act,* 1920 (*Madras Act XIV of* 1920), *be approved.*'

" As these rules run over five or six printed pages, I hope I need not read them, because they have been before hon. Members for a long time. (Rao Bahadur N. R. Samiappa Mudaliyar: 'Only for a number of days and not for a long time.') It has been circulated within the prescribed period and so it is a sufficiently long time.

" I may say, Sir, that there has been a clamour for a long time that we should provincialize the service of assistant engineers of local boards and even as early as 1919 it was thought that

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[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 181–190 infra.

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before the district engineers' service was provincialized the assistant engineers' service should be provincialized. So far about 20 district board engineers were provincialized, but for various reasons the question of provincializing the assistant engineers was not taken up till now. Last year the District Board of Chingleput, Saidapet, passed a resolution requesting the Government to provincialize the service of assistant engineers also. At their request, we made a reference to all the district boards and I may be permitted to say that out of thirty-two boards that have replied, only four have voted against provincialization and as I said on a different occasion yesterday, there are assistant engineers in the same district serving for a long time for over 20 years and we could not transfer them to any other district; and their grades and scales of pay vary from district to district. In certain districts like Tanjore they were recruited straightaway on Rs. 350 and in Chingleput on Rs. 150 though their qualifications are the same and the work done by them are also the same. So, in order to regularize the service and standardize their scales of pay and to give them transfers whenever needed this amendment is brought forward. This was also brought up at the specific request of the engineers themselves made year after year at their conference for the provincialization of their service.

" I request, Sir, that the draft rules be approved."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, I move the following amendment that stands in my name, namely:—

' Add *to clause (iii) of sub-rule* (1) *of rule* 6—

" *or such other age as may be notified by Government from time to time, either generally or for particular communities.*" '

" Sir, this is an amendment which was subsequently moved in the Assembly and accepted by the Government because it was felt that in the case of Muslims, scheduled castes and other such communities, preferential treatment in the matter of age should be given and so they wanted that it should be fixed at 32. We accepted the amendment by taking power to fix the age for those communities as circumstances may require. To-day it may be that Muslims, scheduled castes and some other communities require preferential treatment with regard to recruitment in service. but in course of time it may perhaps be not needed and there would be no necessity for Government to give preferential treatment for them. So, we thought this would be elastic enough to empower the Government to fix the age-limit for different communities from time to time. I hope this would be accepted."

The amendment was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I move the following amendment standing in my name, namely :—

> ' *Draft rule 17 shall be renumbered as sub-rule (1) under draft rule 17 and the following shall be added as sub-rules (2), (3) and (4) :—*
>
> " (2) *The prescribed authority may censure, or withhold increments from, any member of the service for any breach of departmental rules or discipline or for carelessness, unfitness, neglect of duty or other misconduct. He may also suspend temporarily from duty members of the service for any serious offence or misdemeanour pending a report of the case to, and the decision of, the Government thereon.*
>
> " (3) *No member of the service shall be removed or dismissed except by the Government.*
>
> " (4) *An appeal shall lie to the Government against any order of punishment imposed by the prescribed authority except an order of censure.*" '

The amendment was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I move, Sir—

> ' *that in the said rules,* wherever *the word " Muhammadan " occurs, the word " Muslim " be* substituted.'

" This was moved by an hon. Member in the other House and it was accepted by the Government. The reason for it, he said, was that the word ' Muhammadan ' was not a happy term and that those who follow Islam should be named Muslims. The amendment was accepted by Government. I move that it may be accepted here also."

* SRI A. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR :—" Though I do not object to the amendment, I would like to know the difference between ' Muslim ' and ' Muhammadan.' "

* THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I will explain it afterwards." (Laughter.)

The amendment was put and carried.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is that—

> ' the draft rules proposed to be made by the Government of Madras under sub-section (2) of section 74-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (Madras Act XIV of 1920) be approved.

The motion was put and carried.

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.